

Species of Habitat Fragmentation Concern

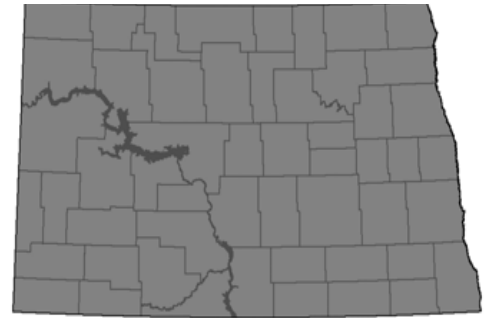
Species: Grasshopper Sparrow (*Ammodramus savannarum*)

Habitat Preference: Seasonal resident, species nests in North Dakota. Prefers moderately open grasslands and prairies with patchy bare ground (Vickery 1996). Encroachment of shrubs and other woody vegetation on open grasslands negatively impacts Grasshopper Sparrows (Hagen et al., 2005).



Credit: Dave Herr

Habitat Fragmentation Concerns: Species of Conservation Priority in North Dakota (Level I; Hagen et al., 2005). Major threat to species is destruction and/or degradation of grasslands (Hagen et al., 2005). Majority of research suggests density and occurrence of Grasshopper Sparrows is sensitive to habitat patch size (Ribic et al., 2009). Grasshopper Sparrow more likely to occupy large tracts of habitat than small fragments (Vickery 1996).



Map of Species Range in North Dakota
Source: Hagen et al., 2005

General Review Literature:

- Hagen, S.K., P.T. Isakson, and S.R. Dyke. 2005. North Dakota Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategy. North Dakota Game and Fish Department. Bismarck, ND. 454 pp.
<http://gf.nd.gov/conservation/cwcs.html>
- Ribic, C.A., R.R. Koford, J.R. Herkert, D.H. Johnson, N.D. Niemuth, D.E. Naugle, K.K. Bakker, D.W. Sample, and R.B. Renfrew. 2009. Area sensitivity in North American grassland birds: Patterns and process. *Auk* 126:233-244.
- Vickery, Peter D. 1996. Grasshopper Sparrow (*Ammodramus savannarum*), *The Birds of North America Online* (A. Poole, Ed.). Ithaca: Cornell Lab of Ornithology; Retrieved from the Birds of North America Online: <http://bna.birds.cornell.edu/bna/species/239>

Additional Species Management Information: <http://www.npwrc.usgs.gov/resource/literatr/grasbird/grsp/grsp.htm>